

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 30 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented. Therefore, claims 4, 8-14, 16, 17, 29, 31-40 and 43 are pending and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116:

Applicants request entry of this Response because claim 30 has been cancelled such that the rejection of claim 30 is rendered moot. Thus, the present Response, along with the filing of the terminal disclaimer discussed below, places this application into condition for allowance.

DOUBLE PATENTING:

Claims 4, 8-14, 16-17, 29-40, 43 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4-5, 7-8, 12-13, 17-18, 20-21, 25-26, 28-29 of U.S. Patent No. 6,852,450. However, since a terminal disclaimer is being filed concurrently herewith to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections, it is noted that these rejections are overcome.

It is noted that U.S. Patent No. 6,853,450 was actually referred to in the discussion of the double patenting rejection in the Office Action. Applicants assume that this was in error and proceed with the understanding that this assumption is correct.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. However, since claim 30 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, the rejection of claim 30 is believed to be moot.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited. If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Finally, if there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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